

Applicant: Moore Jr. et al.
Application No. 09/752,570

REMARKS

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 2, 10, 11, and 12 because of minor grammatical informalities.

Claim 10 is amended to correct "distributed" and is further amended to correct antecedent basis with respect to "home network interface module" of claim 2. Accordingly, the objection to claim 2 is traversed without amendment to claim 2.

Claim 11 is amended to remove "interface" with respect to "a home networking gateway" in order to correct antecedent basis in line 5.

Claim 12 is canceled.

Based on the above, the withdrawal of the objection to claims 2, 10, 11 and 12 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6452923 (Gerszberg et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6775244 (Hattig).

The present invention is a home networking gateway and method for network management of in-home communication devices.

Regarding claim 1, Gerszberg discloses cable connected WAN interconnectivity services for corporate telecommuters. The Examiner asserts that Gerszberg discloses a gateway processor that performs various protocol conversion functions. However, Gerszberg fails to disclose a mapping function as claimed in claim 1: "translator for mapping between HFC-based communication protocols and in-home network-based protocols." Hattig discloses a method for broadcast discovery by a communication bus. Hattig also fails to disclose a translator for

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mapping between HFC protocols and in-home network protocols. Therefore, the combination of Gerszberg and Hattig fail to support a rejection of claim 1 for obviousness.

The Examiner has relied on Gerszberg as having disclosed the claimed limitation: "a service level agreement database coupled to said home networking gateway and comprising a listing of authorized services for the in-home network, class of service information and quality of service information". The Applicants disagree. Gerszberg discloses bandwidth service control by the head end's instructions to modify or temporarily cease usage of certain bandwidth frequencies (col. 39, lines 9-16). However, this is different from the claimed invention where the home networking gateway performs network management of the in-home network according to its service level agreement database. Based on this further distinction of claim 1, the combination of Gerszberg and Hattig fails to support a rejection of obviousness.

With respect to claim 11, claim 12 is incorporated into claim 11, the combination of which the Examiner considers to be allowable.

Claim(s) 2-10 and 13 are dependent upon claims 1 and 11, which the Applicants believe are allowable over the cited prior art of record for the same reasons provided above.

Based on the arguments presented above, the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 11 is respectfully requested.

New claims 14 and 15 for a home networking gateway are added based on claims 2 and 1, respectively.

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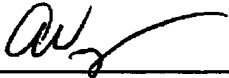
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1-15, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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